AG Bruning: Medicaid Fraud Unit Recovers \$275,000 for Nebraska

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LINCOLN - Attorney General Jon Bruning today announced a settlement with Maxim Healthcare Services, Inc. The settlement will return more than \$275,000 to the Nebraska Medicaid program.

"Nebraska taxpayers can't afford to foot the bill for fraudulent health care claims," said Bruning. "Our Medicaid Fraud Unit works every day to protect Nebraskans and return funds swindled through fraud."

The settlement resolves allegations that Maxim submitted claims for services not rendered and without required documentation. In addition, it resolves allegations that certain Maxim facilities were not properly licensed and ineligible under the Medicaid rules to submit claims for reimbursement.

This investigation began with a whistleblower lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court that alleged that a number of false claims were filed on behalf of a single Medicaid recipient. In total, 41 states were involved in the settlement.

The total civil settlement is \$130 million, with more than \$121 million designated as Medicaid program recovery. The remaining portion of the civil recovery is for damages to the Veteran's Administration program.

Medicaid Fraud and Patient Abuse Unit

Since its inception in 2004, the Attorney General's Office Medicaid Fraud and Patient Abuse Unit has recovered more than \$39 million from violating service providers and drug companies.

When the Unit was established, Bruning promised the Legislature it would be selffunding in three years. The Unit's annual recoveries surpassed its operating budget starting in 2006, a year ahead of schedule.